

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07566 201937Z

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COMMERCE FOR BEWT

VIENNA FOR EWTC

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SUBJECT: OREGON STATE TRADE MISSION

1. SUMMARY: AFTER BUSY FOUR-DAY VISIT TO MOSCOW, MEMBERS OREGON STATE TRADE MISSION EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY ASSISTANCE WAS LIMITED, IN VIEW NON-IOGA STATUS, MISSION REPORTEDLY SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING MOST APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED THROUGH SOVIET CHAMBER. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE RESULTS OF THE MISSION BY AREAS OF INTEREST:

A. AGRICULTURE. A POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR A LARGE SALE OF ALFALFA PELLETS FOR CATTLE FEED. THERE ALSO IS A POTENTIAL FOR THE SALE OF ANGORA GOATS. (THE SOVIETS REPORTED THAT PREVIOUS GOATS PURCHASED FROM TEXAS WERE DISEASED AND RESULTED IN GREAT DISSATISFACTION HERE. THE MISSION RECOMMENDED THAT ON FUTURE PURCHASES ONE OF TWO WEST COAST QUARANTINE STATIONS BE UTILIZED TO AVOID REPETITION.) A MEETING TOOK PLACE ON A POSSIBLE SALE OF BREEDING CATTLE. THE DISCUSSION TOUCHED ON THE AIR SHIPMENT OF CATTLE VIA U.S. AIRLINES SINCE SOVIETS REPORTED AEROFLOT UNWILLING TO UNDERTAKE THIS JOB IN THE FUTURE.

B. PORTS/PORT SERVICES.

DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE WITH SOVINA

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 07566 201937Z

FLOT AND SOVFRACHT ON PREFERENTIAL BERTHING AND IMPROVED PORT

SERVICES. PORTLAND REPRESENTATIVES ALSO DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF LANDING RIGHTS FOR AEROFLOT AT PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. (THE QUESTION WILL PROBABLY BE RAISED LATER WITH WASHINGTON AUTHORITIES.)

C. BANKING. DISCUSSIONS AT VNESHOTRKBANK ON FINANCING WEST COAST IMPORTS/EXPORTS WERE REGARDED AS VERY SATISFACTORY.

D. LUMBER/FOREST PRODUCTS. EXTENSIVE TALKS ON SOVIET PURCHASES OF U.S. MACHINERY FOR PROCESSING FOREST PRODUCTS INCLUDED A STATEMENT BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF TIMBER AND WOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY THAT HE IS UNDER INCREASING CRITICISM FOR ALLOWING THE EXPORT OF SOVIET TIMBER IN THE FORM OF LOGS INSTEAD OF AFTER PROCESSING IN USSR. THIS TENDED TO CONFIRM THE GENERAL FEELING THAT A LARGE POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR THE EXPORT OF U.S. MACHINERY.

E. TEXTILES/RETAIL CLOTHING SALES. MEETINGS ON THIS SUBJECT WERE THE LEAST SATISFACTORY. ONE MEMBER OF THE MISSION DID, HOWEVER, OBTAIN INFORMATION ON SOVIET SOURCES OF SOME DESIRED FABRICS.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION'S ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING LENINGRAD VISIT BY SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE MISSION, WILL BE PROVIDED USDOC BY COMMERCE PORTLAND FIELD OFFICE REP PORTER WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE MISSION. PORTER INFORMED EMBASSY THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TIMBER AND WOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN ACCEPTING AN OFFER FOR A VISIT OF SOVIET FORESTRY TECHNICIANS TO PLANTS IN THE NORTHWEST. THE DATE IS TO BE DETERMINED DURING ANOTHER PLANNED VISIT TO SAME AREA. (IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER VISITS TO OTHER U.S. OR CANADIAN PLANTS ARE CONTEMPLATED.) PORTER STATED DETAILS OF THE INVITATION FOR SOVIET TECHNICIANS HAVE ALREADY BEEN FORWARDED STATE EUR/SOV. HOWEVER, EMBASSY FOLLOWS DUPLICATE IN CASE ORIGINAL NOT RECEIVED. PORTER EXPRESSED HOPE TECHNICIANS WILL BE PERMITTED TO VISIT ALL REQUESTED SITES, ALTHOUGH HE SUSPECTED THAT SOME MIGHT BE IN AREAS NORMALLY CLOSED TO SOVIETS. PORTER WILL CONTACT THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON RETURN TO THE U.S.

4. PORTER STATED THAT THE SOVIETS EXPRESSED A GENERAL INTEREST
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 07566 201937Z

IN ORGANIZING SOME FORM OF EXHIBIT OF U.S. FORESTRY INDUSTRY MACHINERY IN THE FUTURE. USDOC MIGHT WISH TO EXPLORE IDEA FURTHER.
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